
University Studies
North Carolina A&T State University
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Roundtable Meeting Oct 7, 2005 Minutes

The University Studies (UNST) Faculty Roundtable met on Friday Oct 7, 2005 in the Library at 10:00 AM. The following attended the meeting: Joseph Graves, DeRome Dunn, Millicent Brown, Anthony Graham, Lorry Floyd, Robert Davis, Sanjiv Sarin.

- I. Roundtable members considered the suitability of each course in each of the four cluster themes. Some courses were eliminated based on comments from those present. The final approved list of courses for each theme cluster is attached as Appendix A. Also attached, as Appendix B, are course descriptions of the new UNST courses being submitted to the Senate Curriculum committee for approval.

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM.

Recorded by:
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APPENDIX A
UNST Cluster Themes and Approved Courses

Science, Technology and Society

Courses in this cluster will help students understand the complex relationships between scientific discovery, technological advance, and societal change. In addition, students will debate the ethical implications of contemporary scientific research, examine how technology is portrayed in literature and the arts, and evaluate the frequently made claim that better science and technology lead to better lives.

AGEN 216 Geographic Information Systems in Engineering and Natural Resources (137)

AREN 112 Architectural History

COMP 390 Social Implications of Computing (475)

ENGL 206 Film and Culture (175)

ENGL 231 World Literature II

ENGL 331 Writing for Science and Technology (176)

ENGL 336 Postcolonial Novel

HIST 307 Historical Origins (200)

PHIL 266 Contemporary Moral Problems

POLI 410 Public Policy and Technology (236)

POLI 448 Politics of Transportation (237)

SOCI 473 Introduction to Population Studies (252)

SOWK 415 Medical Sociology (254)

UNST 201 Inventing America: Science, Technology, and Progress

UNST 203 Technology, the Real, the Fake and the Authentic

UNST 204 21st Century Organizations: Attitudes, Attention Drivers, and Angst

UNST 206 Scientific Revolutions and Social Change

UNST 207 Ethics & Technology

UNST 210 Ethics in Information Technology

UNST 213 Evolution and Social Implication of Technology. Theme: Technology and Progress

UNST 219 Technology and Public Wellness

UNST 220 Social Consequences of Scientific and Technological Progress In the African American Experience

UNST 221 Thematic Writing and Speaking: Technology and Society

Energy, Environment and Society

Courses in this cluster will examine the role of energy in both local and world economies - how energy issues often intersect and collide with political power, social relationships, and economic development. In addition, this cluster will explore how decisions surrounding energy and environmental issues affect social justice within communities, across the country, and around the world.

AGEC 300 Principles of Rural Sociology (94)

AGEN 216 Geographic Information Systems in Engineering and Natural Resources

BUAD 461 Legal Environment of Business (335)

EASC 201 The Earth-Man's Environment (138)

GEOG 200 Principles of Geography (206)

HIST 435 Global History since 1945 (203)

PHIL 308 Culture and Value (207)
POLI 250 Introduction to Public Policy (235)
POLI 410 Public Policy and Technology (236)
POLI 415 Environmental Policy (236)
POLI 448 Politics of Transportation (237)
UNST 205 The Impact of Energy and the Environment on Development in Non-Industrialized Countries
UNST 211 Case Studies in Environmental Issues
UNST 212 Contemporary Issues in Energy Uses and Sources
UNST 223 Ethnic Identity, Resistance, and Social Criticism

Community, Conflict and Society

Courses in this cluster help students better understand the factors that lead to conflict, and its resolution, at the local, national, and international level. Special attention will be paid to how people of different backgrounds reach peaceful solutions to difficult problems. Students will also be given opportunities to learn mediation and conflict resolution skills as part of their experience in this cluster.

BUAD 461 Legal Environment of Business (335)
CRJS 406/SOCI 406 Criminology (238)
ENGL 336 Postcolonial Novel
HIST 203 North Carolina A&T State University: A Legacy of Social Activism (198)
HIST 332 The Modern Middle East (200)
HIST 336 20th and 21st Century Women Activists of the World
HIST 417 Colonialism and Slavery in Latin America and the Caribbean (202)
HIST 418 Conflict and Change in Post-Colonial Latin America and the Caribbean (202)
HIST 461 History of the New South (204)
PHIL 260 Introduction to Philosophy (207)
PHIL 265 World Religions
POLI 446 Politics of the Americas (237)
POLI 448 Politics of Transportation (237)
POLI 220 Blacks in the American Political System (235)
POLI 400 Mass Political Attitudes and Behavior (236)
POLI 460 Southern Politics (237)
SOC 200 Introduction to Anthropology (254)
SOC 300 Topics in Cultural Anthropology (254)
SOC 406/CRJS 406 Criminology (251)
SOWK 413 The Community (251)
UNST 204 21st Century Organizations: Attitudes, Attention Drivers, and Angst
UNST 208 Foundations of Negotiation And Conflict Resolution
UNST 216 Genocide in the Modern World
UNST 220 Social Consequences of Scientific and Technological Progress In the African American Experience
UNST 222 Introduction to Crime Studies and Research
UNST 223 Ethnic Identity, Resistance, and Social Criticism

Health, Lifestyles and Society

Courses in this cluster introduce students to the behavioral foundations of healthy lifestyles. Courses will also explore the impact of advances in biotechnology, medical research, medical ethics and the operation of the healthcare system on the human condition. Special attention is paid to health and lifestyle issues affecting women, the elderly, and the African American community.

HEFS 135 Food & Man's Survival (119)

HPED 219 Human Sexuality

NURS 305 Nutrition for Healthy Lifestyles

NURS 315 Issues in Women's Health

NURS 415 Health Care in a Global Society

PHIL 266 Contemporary Moral Problems

PSYC 320 General Psychology (242)

SOCI 304 Social Aspects of Human Sexuality (251)

SOCI 308 Sociology of Marriage and the Family (251)

SOWK 370 Aging in Society (254)

SOWK 409 Disability and Employment (252)

SOWK 415 Medical Sociology (254)

UNST 202 Ecological Approach to an Active Healthy Lifestyle

UNST 209 Disparities In Public Health Care: The Effects On Race, Gender, And Class

UNST 214 Maps, Mapping, and Environmental Health

UNST 215 Comparative Socio-Cultural Environments of Health Care Systems

UNST 217/HPED 222 Health and Wellness in the 21st Century

UNST 218 Fitness for Life

APPENDIX B
UNST New Course Descriptions

UNST 201: Inventing America: Science, Technology, and Progress

Through analysis of key episodes in American history from the pre-industrial era to the Information Age, students will explore the complex relations between scientific discovery, technological advance, and societal change. In addition, students will debate the ethical issues triggered by scientific and technological innovation, examine how technology is portrayed in literature and the arts, and evaluate the frequently made claim that better science and technology lead to better lives.

UNST 202: Ecological Approach to an Active Healthy Lifestyle

This cluster course is designed to teach the integration of cultural, psychological, sociological, and ethical issues affecting and affected by the health and wellness of individuals and the society in which they live. The students will learn the contextual and theoretical basis of holistic approaches including the complex nature of humans with regard to health and well being from ecological perspectives. Each student will learn specific methods to foster an appreciation for personal responsibility for health and strategies to enhance and preserve the individual's and the public's health. Societal health issues and the factors that impact on the health and wellness of a community and the individual's role in health policy are examined. The intention of the cluster is to provide an opportunity for students to integrate their body-mind and creatively fulfill their potentials.

UNST 203: Technology, the Real, the Fake and the Authentic

This course provides analysis and comparison of cultural systems through case studies of real, fake, virtual and authentic works and personal experiences studied from the standpoint of the technologies and cultural communities that produced and consumed them. These case studies include works of art, technological artifacts, tourist and other experiences.

UNST 204: 21st Century Organizations: Attitudes, Attention Drivers, and Angst

This course will introduce students to the variables that affect organizations in the 21st century. Students will explore principles, practices, and pitfalls that determine organizational success or failure in a global society. The empowerment of individuals to create organizational cultures will be demonstrated through case studies of successful organizations (e.g., Fortune 100 companies). Students will learn about leadership, communication, and group dynamics through the investigation of targeted units (see course topics below). A culminating project will define the context for the development of leadership, communication, and collaboration skills, and strengthen a sense of community.

UNST 205: The Impact of Energy and the Environment on Development in Non-Industrialized Countries

This course examines issues and problems which comprise the formation of energy and environmental practices and policies of developing and non-industrialized countries. It will show how people of such countries have tried to solve problems related to the use of energy that come about because of poor policy planning or a lack of planning and having few economic resources. Students will study from a historical perspective why such nations are energy dependent. The

course will show the relationship between energy, the environment and development in the non-industrialized countries.

UNST 206: Scientific Revolutions and Social Change

This course is intended to show the complex relationship and connection between science, technology, scientific breakthroughs, and social, political and economic change. The experience of and lessons from the Industrial Revolution of the 18th Century will be used to understand the social, political and ethical implications and challenges of the current revolution in nanotechnology. This course is inherently interdisciplinary and helps students to see the interdependence and relationships between areas that seem unrelated: Science and social sciences, science and culture, science and political relationships and science and social relationships. It is consistent with the mission of the university studies. Students will be guided and expected to understand the deeper relationships between seemingly unrelated events in history, and explore interpretations given by different disciplines.

UNST 207: Ethics & Technology

This course examines ethical issues arising from scientific and technological advancements. The central normative question students will consider is: Simply because we can do something does this mean we should? After exploring various standards for morality, students will analyze issues such as reproductive technologies, cloning, genetic engineering, stem cell research, life-span extension, genetically modified foods, and ethical concerns within nanotechnology.

UNST 208: Foundations Of Negotiation And Conflict Resolution

This course is in congruence with the interactive, learner-centered and global University vision of North Carolina A&T State University, and will serve as a flagship course for students enrolled in the University Studies Cluster Theme entitled "Community in Conflict: Preparation for Peace." The course encourages students to manage conflict and negotiate peaceful solutions to business, economic development, social and political problems in our local communities and global societies.

UNST 209: Disparities In Public Health Care: The Effects On Race, Gender, And Class

This course is designed to explore the disparities that exist among the categories of race, gender, and class in relationship to healthcare that will assist in developing broad-based understanding of six focus group areas of major health inequities including infant mortality, cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, HIV/AIDS and immunizations.

UNST 210: Ethics in Information Technology

Moral, ethical, and legal problems associated with information technologies will be explored. Students will critique ethical dilemmas, debate moral issues, and develop ideas for reducing ethical problems and coping with their effects.

UNST 211: Case Studies in Environmental Issues

The purpose of this course is to provide students with an interdisciplinary approach to understanding issues involving the environment. Students will explore environmental case studies from the point-of-view of various disciplines. Using the Love Canal as the first case study, students will gain an understanding of the roles environmental law,

journalism/communications, economics, and science/engineering contributed to the Love Canal Case. Students will then work in groups to develop a written report and presentation of their own case study topic.

UNST 212: Contemporary Issues in Energy Uses and Sources

This course is designed to provide integrative, self-learning experiences to students relative to contemporary energy issues. The course will cover the economic importance of the energy sector, the production and use of different types of energy, and their impact on the environment and health.

UNST 213: Evolution and Social Implication of Technology

This is an interdisciplinary course in which students will learn about diverse technology systems, such as, biotechnology, communication, construction, manufacturing, medical, and transportation. An investigation of past, present, and future impact on society, human health, environment, economy, and politics will be discussed. Potential of future change influenced by technological change and application is addressed through technological assessment and forecasting.

UNST 214: Maps, Mapping, and Environmental Health

The field of environmental health is very broad encompassing such issues as control of disease or disease vectors, the study of injuries or accidents in human populations, air pollution, and many other related areas. The general focus of this course will be to understand, conceptualize and assess environmental and health issues within contemporary society. This includes topics such as air pollution, water pollution, population dynamics, occupational health, food protection, epidemiology, disease causation and prevention, vector-borne disease, consumer protection and other topics. New technologies such as Geographic Information Systems will be used to model environmental health topics.

UNST 215: Comparative Socio-Cultural Environments of Health Care Systems

The course primarily deals with description and analysis of effects of social, political, economic and cultural factors on development and utilization of health care systems across diverse societies. The primary focus of the course is on exploring the interrelationships between specific aspects of socio-cultural environment and availability and use of health care.

UNST 216: Genocide in the Modern World

This critical reading, writing, and thinking intensive course will examine the concept of genocide, the deliberate murder of a specific group of people, through careful analysis and discussion of theoretical approaches, specific case studies, and relevant cultural artifacts, including literature and film.

UNST 217: Health and Wellness in the 21st Century

This course explores the impact of globalization and its associated issues on the health and wellness of humanity. It examines these phenomena from the perspectives of culture, religion, politics, history, economics and technology. These issues are analyzed and addressed within the context of developing and developed countries and synthesized from a global perspective.

UNST 218: Fitness for Life

This is an individualized, concepts-based course designed to give students the knowledge and skills necessary to self-assess, create, conduct, evaluate, and redesign personal fitness programs. The course is a combination of classroom and activity-based learning activities with a focus on proper nutrition and the mastery of knowledges and skills necessary for students to become accomplished monitors of their personal lifetime fitness.

UNST 219: Technology and Public Wellness

This course describes, reviews and challenges issues arising from the development of technology and their implications for public health policy. These issues are examined from the personal, work, community and global perspectives.

UNST 220: Social Consequences of Scientific and Technological Progress In the African American Experience

This interdisciplinary thematic course will present an analytical approach to the issues of social justice and environmental racism with a focus on the historical experience of African American communities. It will explore what these kinds of impacts are (social, scientific, economic, etc.), how and why they affect minority communities, and what steps can be taken to mitigate the situation.

UNST 221: Thematic Writing and Speaking: Technology and Society

The goal of this course is to improve students' ability to write, speak and think critically about important issues in the contemporary world by focusing on the rhetoric of science, technology and progress. The course examines this rhetoric as represented in fiction and non fiction: essays, short stories, drama, poetry, novels, film, popular culture (including popular science writing and journalism), and speeches.

UNST 222: Introduction to Crime Studies and Research

This course will introduce students to research methodologies used in the field of crime studies. It will also examine the impact of crime studies research on public policy. The course will consist of four modules: 1) a math and quantitative research module; 2) a module on competing theories of crime in society; 3) a module examining the relationship between legal and scientific reasoning, and 4) a module integrating the knowledge and skills of the first three modules.

UNST 223: Ethnic Identity, Resistance, and Social Criticism

This course focuses on the struggle of young African-American men to shape a masculine identity and young African-American women to shape a feminine identity in today's society while being consistently bombarded by negative images of themselves in society. This course will cultivate a dialogue between influential African-American literature texts of the past and important texts of the present as a way for students to unearth knowledge of their history; challenge normative beliefs about what it means to be a man or woman; intensely examine assumptions about men's and women's roles; explore the impact that the media and hip-hop culture has on young African-Americans; and devise approaches to life which will be most effective for their success in a racially charged society.